



Department of State

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY

JL

DATE

8/8/81

RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE

TS AUTH. REASON(S)

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☒

RELEASE DENIED ☐

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

UNCLAS STATE 059034

FOLLOWING REPEAT TEL AVIV 4175 ACTION SECSTATE INFO JERUSALEM
MAR 11

QUOTE UNCLAS TEL AVIV 04175

E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: CASC

SUBJECT: VISIT TO BLACK HEBREW COMMUNITY, DIMONA, 2/28/79

1. GAO TEAM MEMBERS BACKHUS AND GREATA ACCOMPANIED BY
CONOFF KERR AND CONASST WEISS VISITED BLACK HEBREW
COMMUNITY AT DIMONA, FEBRUARY 28. AT MFA REQUEST, AN
OFFICIAL OF MOI ACCOMPANIED GROUP FOR THEIR INTERVIEW
WITH BEN AMI CARTER, LEADER OF THE BLACK HEBREW COMMUNITY
IN DIMONA.

2. DURING HOUR AND A HALF VISIT, BEN AMI CARTER OBLIGED
GAO INVESTIGATORS BY ANSWERING NUMEROUS QUESTIONS
RELATING TO THE COMMUNITY'S RELATIONSHIP WITH ISRAELI
AUTHORITIES AND U.S. EMBASSY. IN GENERAL, BLACK HEBREW
LEADER APPEARS HOPEFUL THAT MK GLASS' COMMISSION REPORT
WILL IMPROVE WHAT HAS HERETOFORE BEEN A TESTY RELATION-
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SHIP WITH THE HOST GOVERNMENT. WITH RESPECT TO RELATIONS

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WITH THE U.S. EMBASSY, [CARTER] INDICATED HE WAS PLEASED
WITH THE CONTACT MAINTAINED DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS;
HOWEVER, HE CRITICIZED WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS A COMPLETE
LACK OF EMBASSY CONCERN FOR BLACK HEBREW PROBLEMS DURING
PRIOR YEARS IN ISRAEL AND DURING THE COMMUNITY'S STAY
IN LIBERIA. VIETS
QUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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